

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 604
By Herron

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of State Senator Jeff Green
of Mayfield, Kentucky.

WHEREAS, it was with great sadness and a profound sense of loss that the members of this General Assembly learned of the death of an estimable public servant from our neighboring state, State Senator Jeff Green of Mayfield, Kentucky; and

WHEREAS, throughout his exemplary tenure, representing the best interests of the people of the commonwealth, Senator Green performed his elected duties with remarkable dexterity and unprecedented devotion; his competence and enthusiasm should serve as a benchmark for legislators and other elected officials nationwide; and

WHEREAS, a caring and compassionate man, Senator Green gave unreservedly of his time and talents to an issue he felt very strongly about: the protection of women and children; and

WHEREAS, Senator Green spent countless hours carefully crafting and garnering support for legislation designed to protect children from abuse and women from domestic violence; and

WHEREAS, one knowledgeable observer said of Senator Green, "He had a remarkable way of making our battle against these crimes seem winnable. He used his talents, his sense of humor, his unwavering energy and his dogged sense of determination in making us all believe we can end violence in this commonwealth"; and

WHEREAS, in memory of his illustrious legislative career and his devotion to the protection of victims of the commonwealth's most intolerable crimes, plaques honoring Senator

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Green will be placed in the Kentucky Governor's office, Attorney General's office, every spouse abuse and rape crisis center in Kentucky and in other victim advocacy agencies; and

WHEREAS, the distinguished plaques bear the likeness of Senator Green and one of two quotations from memorable speeches he made about victims of domestic violence and child abuse; and

WHEREAS, the first of the late Senator's powerful quotes demonstrated his support of victims' rights: "Our criminal justice system must remain steadfast in its adherence to the principle of fundamental fairness. Nothing can be more fair than giving victims a strong voice in that process"; and

WHEREAS, the second quote that will grace many of the memorial plaques revealed Senator Green's belief in the possibility of an end to violence in the home: "I refuse to accept the cynical notion that we as a commonwealth will always suffer from the blows of domestic violence. We have it within our means to stop the daily harm which is faced by too many of our Kentucky citizens; and

WHEREAS, upon the unveiling of the plaques, Governor Patton of Kentucky stated that "Jeff Green was a rare individual who acted on the belief that the commonwealth must protect crime victims and by doing so made Kentucky a safer place for all of us to live"; Carol Jordan, executive director of the Governor's Office of Child Abuse and Domestic Violence Services, said Senator Green, "honored himself by what he believed in, by what he did and with the vigor with which he did it"; and

WHEREAS, the exemplary Senator Green quickly became a staple figure in the Kentucky legislature as both an elected official and an advocate; his talent and energy will seldom be unequaled, and without question, he will be greatly missed; and

WHEREAS, he leaves behind to celebrate his life, his wife, Sharon; he was the proud father of two sons, Tyler and Alex; and

WHEREAS, it is highly appropriate that this legislative body pause in its deliberations to remember Senator Jeff Green; although he has relinquished this life for a far greater existence, the legacy of his courage, tenacity, endless energy and devotion to the causes so dear to him will live for many years to come; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE-HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we hereby pause to mourn the death of an esteemed public servant, Senator Jeff Green of Mayfield, Kentucky, while also celebrating the life of this man whose dedication to certain causes and many successes and selfless contributions will live eternally.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.